centre have been formulated for the purpose of assisting modernisation of single hullers as well as testing rice-milling machinery and equipment. A Food Engineering Centre is being set up at the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore for undertaking research and development on machineries and technologies for food processing industries.

(c) and (d) The targets for export of processed food including rice and marine products, laid down by the Agricultural processed Food Export Development Authority and Marine Products Export Development Authority are likely to be achieved.

Assistance to the Fruit and Vegetable based Industries

3916. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assistance is being provided by Government to the fruit and vegetable based industries located in Raigarh, Raipur, Bilaspur and Mandla Parliamentary constituencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of schemes for setting up fruit and vegetable based industries pending approval of Government as at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (c) While the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing various Plan schemes which seek to provide assistance to public sector, joint sector, cooperative sector units, etc. for setting up/development of food processing industries, no proposal seeking such assistance from fruit & vegetable based industries located in Raigarh, Raipur, Bilaspur and Mandla Parliamentary Constituencies has either been received or is pending, in this Ministry.

Advertisement for renewal on charter policy permits

3917. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently advertised in the news papers calling for companies to apply for renewal of their 1981 charter policy permits;

(b) the details of this advertisement, with regard to 1981 charter policy;

(c) what are the compulsions behind such a retroactive generosity; and

(d) details of the kind of trawlers, specifically mentioning whether bull trawlers, etc. would come under this extension scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (d) With a view to phasing out chartering of foreign fishing vessels under the chartering scheme formulated by the Government in 1981, a public notice was issued by this Ministry recently. Copy of the public notice is given in the statement (*See below*). Under the 1981 charter policy, all types of fishing vessels, including bull trawlers, were permitted. However, certain doubts had been raised in technical circles regarding the harmful ecological effects of bull-trawling. Therefore, an effort is made to regulate the number of bull-trawlers while renewing the permits for the same under the 1981 policy.

STATEMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby made known that Government of India has decided to phase out its Charter Policies in stages. Since 1981, Government of India has been permitting chartering of foreign fishing vessels for carrying out fishing operations in the Indian EEZ under the provisions of the *Maritime* Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by foreign vessels) Act, 1981 and Rules framed thereunder. This was primarily with a view to familiarising Indian entrepreneurs in the techniques of deep sea fishing. Since conciderable exposure has been given to the Indian companies/firms in this respect and since joint venture approach is to be encouraged under the new Deep Sea Fishing Policy, it is now felt that chartering should be phased out in stages. Accordingly, in the first phase, it is hereby made known that Government of India in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries will not entertain any requests after 31-12-1993 for extension in the validity of the Charter Permits from companies/firms which were granted Permits for chartering of foreign fishing vessels prior to 31-12-1987 (i. e. all Permits issued under the 1981 Charter Policy). Those companies/firms which are eligible for and desirous of getting extension in the validity of their Charter Permits can therefore make necessary requests for extension, to this Ministry latest by 31-12-1993. No such requests will be entertained after this date.